Claytone Sikasote

https://csikasote.github.io

claytonsikasote@gmail.com | +260-979-084696

OBJECTIVE

To intuitively understand the foundation of learning and decision making towards developing intelligent systems. I am interested in deep learning, natural language processing and speech processing. I am enthusiastic about building efficient and robust speech recognition systems in low-resource and multilingual settings.

EDUCATION

MSc., Machine Intelligence, Africa Institute of Mathematical Sciences (AIMS), Kigali, Rwanda   Oct 2019 – **Present**

- Recipient of the Google and Facebook full scholarship to pursue the African Masters of Machine Intelligence programme at the Africa Institute of Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in Kigali, Rwanda.
- Supervisor: Prof. Antonios Anastasopoulos
- Date of completion: **31/03/2021**
- **Comment**: completed (both course work and research project) just waiting for results.

MSc., Information Technology Management, Binary University, Puchong, Malaysia   Apr 2013 – Oct 2014

- Specialization: **Information Technology**

BSc., Computer Science, University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia   Apr 2007 – Aug 2011

- Specialization: **Computer Systems Engineering**

EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, Department of Computer Science, University of Zambia, Zambia   May 2015 – **Present**

- Teaching computer science courses: Data Mining (clickable github course link: CSC 4792) and Databases(CSC 2702/CSC 3712)
- Other tasks included but not limited to supervising undergraduate final year projects, developing programme curriculum, updating course outlines, representing the university in showcasing the innovative projects developed in the department at both the regional and national level like the Zambia International Trade Fair.

Lecturer, Institute of Distance Education, University of Zambia, Zambia   Jun 2017 – Oct 2019

- Teaching Computer Repair and Maintenance course (CSC 1010) to diploma students pursuing distance education.
- Preparing learning materials as well as administering tests and exams.

Instructor, CISCO Academy, University of Zambia, Zambia   Sep 2016 – Jun 2019

- Instructor of Python Programming, IT Essentials and Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) Level 1 and Level 2 CISCO courses.

Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science, University of Zambia, Zambia   Feb 2012 – May 2015

- Teaching assistant for computer programming and databases courses in the Department of Computer Science under the staff development fellowship.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Mathematics for Machine Learning Specialization** by Imperial College London on Coursera   Nov 2019
  Certificate of completion
- **Deep Learning Specialization** by Deeplearningai on Coursera   Aug 2018
  Certificate of completion
- **Machine Learning** by Stanford University on Coursera   Jul 2018
  Certificate of completion

PUBLICATIONS

- **C. Sikasote**, A. Anastasopoulos, *BembaSpeech: A Speech Recognition Corpus for the Bemba Language*, Accepted at AfricaNLP workshop at EACL, 2021.

- S. H. Chiwamba, J. Phiri, P. O.Y. Nkunika, **C. Sikasote**, M. M. Kabemba, M. N. Moonga, *Automated Fall Armyworm (Spodoptera frugiperda, J.E. Smith) Pheromone Trap Based on Machine Learning*, Journal of Computer Science 2019, 15 (12): 1759.1779

- L. Jaganathan, **C.Sikasote**, M. Nyirenda and J.Phiri, *A Survey on Face Detection and Recognition Techniques for Applications in Educational Institutions*, ZAPUC International Conference,Livingstone, 30 April - 2 May, 2018.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- **African Master of Machine Intelligence Scholarship**, Kigali, Rwanda   Sep 2019
- **Special Research Fellowship**, University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia   Sep 2019
- **Zambia First Lady - Binary University Scholarship**, Binary University, Malaysia   Apr 2013
- **Staff Development Fellowship**, University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia   Feb 2012
- **Zambia Higher Education Scholarship**, University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia   Apr 2007

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python

- **Database technologies:** MS SQL, MySQL

- **Operating system platforms:** Windows, Linux

- **Machine learning libraries:** Scikit-learn, Pandas, NumPy, SciPy

- **Data visualization tools:** Matplotlib, tSNE

- **Deep learning frameworks:** Pytorch, Tensorflow

- **Speech Recognition Tools:** DeepSpeech, Wav2letter

- **Machine Translation Tools:** OpenNMT, JoeyNMT

DATASETS

- **BembaSpeech**
  Speech recognition corpus consisting of 24 hrs of read speech for the Bemba language spoken by over 30% of the population in Zambia.

  Link: *https://github.com/csikasote/BembaSpeech*

- **Multilingual ASR Corpus for African Languages**
  Multilingual ASR corpus consisting of over 60 hours of read speech for 19 African languages. I contributed 2 hours of Bemba language speech data to this corpus as part of the class project.

  Link: *https://github.com/besacier/AMMIcourse/tree/master/STUDENTS-RETURN*